
Lewis Little Folks, Inc.



21000 Brookpark Road

MS LLF-1

Cleveland, Ohio 44135

Spring 2002

Dear Parents,

Wow!! It's been a quick 2 ½ months since I "took office" as LLF Director! There are so many new things to learn and get used to, switching from classroom teacher to office administrator. I think I've finally settled in to a routine, but new things come up every day. I want to thank all of you for your continued support and patience as I move LLF forward to being the BEST place to bring your children!!

Several activities have been going on throughout the late winter and early spring, with many more to come! Our Malley's Candy Fundraiser was a huge success; thank you so much for participating, especially Carm and Gayle DiBiasio who organized it so well! Currently, our Tupperware Fundraiser is under way, until the end of April. Keep those orders coming in, and if you need additional forms or information, contact the office. We also have the Scholastic Book Fair coming up the week of May 13th, so clear a spot on your home bookshelves!

Of course, our Summer Camp Program has been a hot topic as of late...we had an overwhelming response this year, to say the least!! We've filled all 40 slots, most by our current Tigers and Kindergartners. We'll have 4 Camp teachers again this year, Ms. Maureen Becker, Ms. Erlinda, Ms. Donna, and Ms. Staci (from last summer). All four of them have been hard at work planning trips and activities for your campers to enjoy. Keep an eye out for the final calendar and field trip schedule, coming soon to your child's locker.....The summer camp tuition cost has been set at \$100 per week.

We have to make room for those campers, so we've set our Transition Week for June 3-7. If you have a child who will be transitioning, Carm will inform you in advance of the transition. Also, our Kindergarten Graduation is planned for Friday, June 7th, 10 am, at the Picnic Grounds. The Tigers and Kindergartners are already planning for their big day!!

It's Earth Week this week, and already we've had some exciting activities put on by the US EPA and the Department of Wildlife. Everyone seems to be very "into" Earth Week this year; we've sold many Earth Day t-shirts, and the children have been doing lots of hands-on activities in their classrooms. A special thank-you to Lynette Westfall for organizing these activities; she really worked hard to make Earth Week fun for everyone!! (And don't forget to wear your Earth Day apparel this Thursday!)

With the weather getting warmer, a few reminders need to go out... Please dress your child appropriately for the weather, and make sure his/her extra clothing is also weather-appropriate. Check your child's locker basket often, and let the teachers know if you've brought in any special garment you want your child to wear. Also, Sunscreen Forms need to be filled out, ASAP. See your child's teacher if you need one.

I'm sure everyone's been wondering about our new building. Well, after a few months of no news, we have some progress in the making. Moving bids are currently out, with the closing date set for May 5th. This is all the information I have so far, I'll keep you up-to-date as things progress.

And a few miscellaneous reminders... please do not allow your child to take LLF toys/materials home. Teachers count on their classroom supplies being there when they need them, and it is very frustrating to have them missing in the morning. Also, if you have children in multiple rooms, please be mindful of where your children are at drop-off and pick-up times. It is not the teacher's responsibility to watch the siblings of their students (older or younger). Thank you for your cooperation!

I plan on putting out a Parent Newsletter every other month or so. If you have any input, concerns, or questions, please bring them to my attention. I will try very hard to address everyone in a timely manner. Again, I thank you all for making the transition into my new position smooth for me; I really do appreciate all your well-wishings and patience!!

Patricia R. Kieffer, Director

***** CLASSROOM NEWS *****

BUNNIES: Now that Spring is here we would like to remind the parents to bring in Spring clothes, coats, hats, blankets and sunscreen. Also, please check your child's locker daily for artwork and information from the office. Thank you to those parents who donated food to our Harvest for Hunger. Special thanks to Allen, Barbara and Victoria Holtz whose generous donation helped us to win the Food Drive. Happy 1st Birthday to Claire Hu, Alex Krinov, and Mia Colozza in May.

-Shelly, Natalie, Renee, Melanie

DUCKLINGS: The Duckling Room is hopping into spring with many new and exciting things to do. Since the weather outside is getting nicer we will be spending more time outdoors. Because of this, we ask that the parents please start bringing in sunscreen, water bottles, hats, and clothes suitable for the warmer temperatures. We are looking forward to getting outside more and getting ready to jump into summer!

Thanks, Janice, Susan, Christine

PUPPIES: We have been enjoying the nice Spring weather and all the beautiful flowers. We are looking forward to some Earth Week activities, especially the dress-up day to show off our Earth Day and animal shirts. The Puppy teachers want to thank all of you for your generous outpouring for canned goods for the needy. Our Puppy classroom came in second place!

-The Puppy Teachers

BEARS: Spring has sprung. So far we have planted flowers, sprouted beans, and grew tops of carrots. We are winding up the alphabet. Happy Birthday to Maya 4/7, Joshua 5/7, Rachel 5/23, Michael 5/26, and Zakayah 5/30. Enjoy the warm weather!

-Bear Room

TIGER 1, TIGER 2 NEWS: A big thank you to all our parents for attending our parent-teacher conferences. A lot of exciting projects have been happening in our class. The tigers enjoyed learning about Nature and created edible bird nests for snack. For Week of the Young Child, we designed T-shirts with fabric paints, and what a great job each child did on their T-shirt. We would like to plan a field trip for the end of May. We are taking suggestions from our parents. A survey will be sent out for your ideas and to poll parents if they are willing to participate with their child for the field trip. Please return your survey as soon as possible. Just a reminder, please make sure your child has a spring jacket or sweater at school. We go out in the mornings and the weather is sometimes cool. The tigers will start taking more nature walks with the warm weather, please make sure your child is wearing comfortable shoes to school daily.

Thank you, Miss Linda, Miss Maureen

TIGER 3: Can you believe that spring is finally here with us? So let's bring in those water bottles with your child's name on it. I'll be sending home the sunscreen forms. It's also time to change the spare change of clothes, but let's keep the boots around for a few more weeks (both playgrounds get a little on the muddy side). Thank you for everyone who signed up for our conferences. Mario's Dad will be coming in and telling the class all about Space during Space Week (please bring in one cereal box for this week). And a big Thanks to Natalie's family for the donation of scrap paper, seems like we go through a lot! Thanks to all who brought in items from the wish list. Also, thanks for bringing in all the food for Harvest for Hunger. We came in 3rd place. Good job Tigers and families! Moms...circle your calendar for May 10, the class will be having a tea party for you. The week of May 27-31, please bring in one pre-washed white T-shirt. We will be painting our Spirit Week shirts (if you have any extra fabric paint we could use, it would help).

Thanks, Cathy McDonnell

KINDERGARTEN: Happy Spring! I can hardly believe another month has flown by. It seems like the year just began! The Kindergartners are busy bees. Spring fever has not hit yet. We are learning to add, subtract, and read. We are also studying maps, plants, seeds, air, and the food pyramid. Ask your child about their goals and the reading club. Dates to remember: Earth Week Activities, April 15-19; Zoo Trip, May 30; Graduation, June 7. Let's find out from the Kindergartners--what they are learning: "We are learning..." Brianna: "to do papers, smile helper, and pick helper jobs." Taylor: "to make shapes, numbers, letters, read color words and make rhymes." Robby: "to read." Tamra: "to tie my shoe." Katie: "to read like Robby." Hannah: "to read, add, and make shapes and numbers." Evan: "about deserts and reading." Gabby: "to add, color in the lines, read, and doing numbers." Megan: "to make numbers, letters and shapes." Bradley: "to read."

KITCHEN: Thank you for all the Campbell labels! We have collected about 200 each month and several hundred in bonus points. The front flower bed will be prepared soon for a May planting, (weather permitting). There is \$60 left from last years flower fund. Anyone who would like to help out please contact Linda Ryan at

3-9431. The Spring/Summer menu starts May 13th. Patty will e-mail them just before the start. There are coupons on the bulletin board in the entrance hall. Please feel free to take or add as needed. The caring and sharing box has been temporarily put on hold due to lack of space. Sorry for any inconvenience. I would like to personally commend all parents for the overwhelming response to the Harvest for Hunger collection. It is an excellent organization that many families rely on. Thank you for your generosity!